is fully responsive to the suggestions received for safety enhancement. Two Non-Governmental Organisations have already been engaged for road safety work on NH-8.

(e) The suggestions/demands from Road Safety Forum have been carefully considered by NHAI and accepted wherever found reasonable and feasible. This practice would continue to be followed.

Unemployment in IT Sector

*488. SHRI URKHAO GWRA BRAHMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the unemployment in Indian IT sector is increasing day by day;

(b) whether Government maintains any data about employment scenario in the IT sector of the country;

(c) whether Government are aware that these kind of situations would hamper the growth of IT industry of the country; and

(d) if so, Government's approach in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) As per information from NASSCOM (National Association of Software and Service Companies) the number of professionals employed in IT Software Sector including ITES (I.T. Enabled Services)/BPO (Business Process Outsourcing) was 2.84 lakhs in 1999-2000. It is estimated to increase to 10.45 lakhs in 2004-05 registering a cumulative annual growth rate of 30%.

In addition, as per MAIT (Manufacturers Association of Information Technology) the number of professionals currently employed in IT Hardware Sector is 1.5 lakhs and the growth rate of employment in this sector is 10%.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Government is aware of the manpower situation is IT Sector. Action is taken from time to time to meet the IT manpower requirements by both the Private and Public Sectors.